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**MANILA BULLETIN:**

# Group says maximum SRP on rice to benefit traders, not farmers

**BY JEL SANTOS**

Jan 11, 2025 03:37 PM

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The Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas (KMP) has slammed the government’s move to implement a maximum suggested retail price (MSRP) of ₱58 per kilo for imported rice.

In a statement, the KMP said the implementation of the maximum suggested retail price is a “band-aid solution” by the Department of Agriculture (DA).

The group said the measure fails to address the root causes of high rice and food prices, including the lack of support for local farmers, neoliberal agricultural policies, the importation of cheap rice that undermines domestic production, and the absence of genuine rural industrialization.

“Malinaw na pakitang tao lang ang MSRP. Walang matibay na mekanismo ang DA para tiyaking susunod ang mga trader at rice retailer, habang ang mga magsasaka ay patuloy na nalulugi dahil sa mababang kita mula sa kanilang ani (The MSRP is clearly just for show. The DA has no solid mechanism to ensure that traders and rice retailers will comply, while farmers continue to suffer losses due to low income from their harvest),” KMP Chairperson Danilo Ramos said in a statement.

“Sa ganitong polisiya, lalong naghihirap ang magsasaka at konsyumer habang nakikinabang ang kartel ng bigas at malalaking importer (With this kind of policy, farmers and consumers are further burdened while rice cartels and large importers benefit),” he went on.

The progressive group stressed that ₱58 per kilo remains unaffordable for ordinary Filipinos, especially with soaring prices of goods and stagnant wages.

The KMP noted that in September 2023, the Department of Agriculture (DA) implemented a price ceiling on local rice, setting it at ₱41 per kilo for regular milled rice and ₱45 per kilo for well-milled rice. Despite this, prices continued to rise, breaching ₱50 per kilo in many areas.

“Sa halip na kung anu-anong trial and error na hakbang na pabor pa rin sa mga malalaking rice traders ang ginagawa ng DA, dapat nitong tutukan ang pagpapaunlad ng lokal na produksyon ng palay—kasama ang pagpapababa ng gastos sa produksyon, pagbibigay ng subsidyo, at

pagtataas ng farmgate price para sa magsasaka (Instead of implementing trial-and-error measures that still favor large rice traders, the DA should focus on developing local rice production—this includes reducing production costs, providing subsidies, and increasing the farmgate price for farmers),” said Ramos.

The farmers’ group called on the public to hold the DA and the Marcos administration accountable for their failure to address rising food prices and their continued neglect of the agriculture sector.

On Friday, Jan. 10, Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr. said the D is set to implement an MSRP of ₱58 per kilo for imported rice starting Jan. 20.

“This MSRP aims to strike a delicate balance between business sustainability and the welfare of consumers and farmers. We must ensure the price of rice is fair and affordable even as we make sure that the rice industry remains profitable. We cannot allow the greed of a few to jeopardize the well-being of an entire nation,” Laurel said.

The DA clarified that the new MSRP will initially cover Metro Manila and will be reviewed monthly to reflect market conditions, including changes in global rice prices. “We think that if the current direction of global prices holds, the MSRP will be lower after the review,” he added.

However, Laurel admitted that the DA has not yet established specific sanctions for rice retailers who fail to adhere to the ₱58 MSRP.

“Wala pang sanction. Per the meeting yesterday, maximum suggested tayo. Ang sinasabi namin sa publiko, ito lang ang dapat na maximum na presyo niyan (There are no sanctions yet. Per the meeting yesterday, we are only implementing a maximum suggested price. What we are telling the public is that this should be the maximum price),” he said in an interview.

Laurel also stated that if the rice supply situation deteriorates, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and the DA would recommend to President Marcos Jr. the imposition of mandatory price ceilings.

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The group said the measure fails to address the root causes of high rice and food prices, including the lack of support for local farmers, neoliberal agricultural policies, the importation of cheap rice that undermines domestic production, and the absence of genuine rural industrialization.

“Malinaw na pakitang tao lang ang MSRP. Walang matibay na mekanismo ang DA para tiyaking susunod ang mga trader at rice retailer, habang ang mga magsasaka ay patuloy na nalulugi dahil sa mababang kita mula sa kanilang ani (The MSRP is clearly just for show. The DA has no solid mechanism to ensure that traders and rice retailers will comply, while farmers continue to suffer losses due to low income from their harvest),” KMP Chairperson Danilo Ramos said in a statement.

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The progressive group stressed that ₱58 per kilo remains unaffordable for ordinary Filipinos, especially with soaring prices of goods and stagnant wages.

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The DA clarified that the new MSRP will initially cover Metro Manila and will be reviewed monthly to reflect market conditions, including changes in global rice prices. “We think that if the current direction of global prices holds, the MSRP will be lower after the review,” he added.

However, Laurel admitted that the DA has not yet established specific sanctions for rice retailers who fail to adhere to the ₱58 MSRP.

“Wala pang sanction. Per the meeting yesterday, maximum suggested tayo. Ang sinasabi namin sa publiko, ito lang ang dapat na maximum na presyo niyan (There are no sanctions yet. Per the meeting yesterday, we are only implementing a maximum suggested price. What we are telling the public is that this should be the maximum price),” he said in an interview.

Laurel also stated that if the rice supply situation deteriorates, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and the DA would recommend to President Marcos Jr. the imposition of mandatory price ceilings.

<https://mb.com.ph/2025/1/11/maximum-srp-on-rice-benefits-traders>

**MANILA BULLETIN:**

## **DA to enforce ₱58/kilo maximum suggested retail price starting Jan. 20**

**BY JEL SANTOS**

Jan 10, 2025 02:05 PM



The Department of Agriculture (DA) will implement a maximum suggested retail price (MSRP) of ₱58 per kilo for imported rice beginning January 20, Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr. announced Friday, Jan. 10.

“This MSRP aims to strike a delicate balance between business sustainability and the welfare of consumers and farmers. We must ensure the price of rice is fair and affordable even as we make sure that the rice industry remains profitable. We cannot allow the greed of a few to jeopardize the well-being of an entire nation,” said Laurel. According to DA, the new MSRP will be imposed initially in Metro Manila and reviewed monthly to reflect market conditions, including global price movements.

“We think that if the current direction of global prices holds, the MSRP will be lower after the review,” the DA chief added.

However, Laurel noted that no specific sanctions have been established yet for rice retailers who fail to comply with the ₱58 MSRP.

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suggested price. What we are telling the public is that this should be the maximum price),” he said in an interview with reporters.

The DA chief said that if the situation worsens, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and the agriculture department would be forced to recommend to President Marcos Jr. the imposition of price ceilings.

“Kung talagang hindi sila susunod, kung may situation na talagang mapipilitan ang DTI at DA na control with sanctions, we will have to recommend to the President price ceilings. Ang Presidente ang mag-de-declare ng price ceilings (If they will refuse to comply, and if the situation demands that the DTI and DA enforce control with sanctions, we will have to recommend price ceilings to the President. It is the President who will decide on and declare the price ceilings),” he stated.

Meanwhile, Trade and Industry Secretary Cristina Roque expressed her agency’s full support for the DA’s pricing strategy, saying the DTI will assist in monitoring and enforcing the new rice prices.

“The DTI fully supports the DA in all its initiatives. We will help in the monitoring and enforcement of prices set by the DA,” Roque said.

### **Efforts to stabilize prices**

The imposition of an MSRP follows weeks of consultations with rice millers, traders, importers, retailers, and government bodies, including the DTI, Department of the Interior and Local Government, Department of Finance, and the Philippine National Police. These discussions were aimed at addressing persistently high rice prices, despite tariff cuts implemented by President Marcos Jr. and declining global prices.

In 2024, the country’s rice import volume hit a record 4.7 million metric tons, with the lower tariff disincentivizing smuggling and allowing markets to reflect actual imports. Laurel said the ₱58 per kilo ceiling is based on data and profit margins provided by rice importers and retailers.

“Imported five percent broken rice should not exceed ₱58 per kilo. For rice with a higher percentage of broken grains, the price should be much lower,” he explained.

### **Farmer's group: MSRP for imported rice should be ₱45/kilo**

The Samahang Industriya ng Agrikultura (SINAG) criticized the DA’s plan to set the maximum suggested retail price for imported rice at ₱58 per kilo, asserting that it should only be pegged at ₱45 per kilo.

According to SINAG, prior to the implementation of Executive Order (EO) 62, importers and the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) projected a ₱7-10 per kilo reduction in rice prices due to the 15 percent tariff on imported rice.

“We’ve said all along na ‘yung matitipid ng importers sa tariff reduction ay hindi naman maipapasa sa consumers kaay’t hindi sagot ang tariff reduction (We’ve said all along that the savings from the tariff reduction will not be passed on to consumers, so a tariff cut is not the solution),” SINAG said in a statement.

The farmers’ group cited last month’s marathon hearings of the House Committee on Agriculture and Food, which, they said, confirmed their position that imported rice should retail at ₱42-45 per kilo, based on a landed cost of ₱35-38 per kilo.

“Ang ipinangako ng importers ay ₱42-45/kilo if EO 62 was implemented, which Congress vetted to be the real price ng imported rice. Bakit hindi doon i-peg (₱45) ang max SRP? If at ₱58 ang MSRP, panalong panalo ang importers at importer-traders. Extended ang Christmas season para sa mga importers (Importers promised Congress

that with EO 62, imported rice would be priced at ₱42-45 per kilo. Why not peg the MSRP at ₱45? If the MSRP is set at ₱58, importers and importer-traders will benefit greatly—it's like the Christmas season is extended for them),” SINAG argued.

The group also reiterated its call for the strict enforcement of the MSRP, including punitive measures. They suggested using the Anti-Agricultural Economic Sabotage Act (RA 12022) as the legal basis to impose non-bailable charges against anyone found to be profiting excessively from rice and other basic food items.

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The group also reiterated its call for the strict enforcement of the MSRP, including punitive measures. They suggested using the Anti-Agricultural Economic Sabotage Act (RA 12022) as the legal basis to impose non-bailable charges against anyone found to be profiting excessively from rice and other basic food items.

<https://mb.com.ph/2025/1/10/da-to-enforce-58-kilo-maximum-suggested-retail-price-starting-jan-20>



**THE PHILIPPINE STAR:**

# Max SRP for imported rice starts Jan. 20 – DA

[Bella Cariaso](#) - The Philippine Star

January 11, 2025 | 12:00am



Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr. and Trade and Industry Secretary Cristina Roque inspect rice supplies and prices at the Murphy Public Market in Cubao, Quezon City yesterday. They also launched the ‘Sulit Rice,’ which will be sold at P36 per kilo, alongside the P40 per kilo rice at the Kadiwa ng Pangulo kiosks.

Miguel De Guzman

## P58 a kilo

MANILA, Philippines — The maximum suggested retail price (SRP) of P58 per kilo on imported rice will take effect on Jan. 20, after Executive Order 62 – which allowed a 15 percent tariff on the outsourced staple – failed to bring down the cost of rice.

“This maximum SRP aims to strike a delicate balance between business sustainability and the welfare of consumers and farmers. We must ensure the price of rice is fair and affordable even as we make sure that the rice industry remains profitable. We cannot allow the greed of a few to jeopardize the well-being of an entire nation,” Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr. said yesterday.

However, farmers' group Samahang Industriya ng Agrikultura (SINAG) yesterday maintained that the P58 per kilo SRP to be enforced by the Department of Agriculture (DA) is still high, saying the maximum SRP should only be P45 per kilo.

Imported rice has been flooding the country as importations reached an "all-time high" 4.684 million metric tons in 2024.

Tiu Laurel said the price of P58 per kilo was determined after extensive consultations with importers, retailers, rice industry stakeholders as well as government agencies and law enforcement bodies.

SINAG executive director Jayson Cainglet said that during the marathon hearing of the House quinta committee, importers promised that the retail price of imported rice could go down to between P42 and P45 per kilo once EO 62 is implemented.

"Prior to the implementation of E0 62, importers and the National Economic and Development Authority were in chorus for a P7 to 10 per kilo reduction in rice prices upon the effectivity of the 15 percent tariff on imported rice," Cainglet said.

He added that the importers are still the winners with the DA's decision to implement the P58 per kilo of rice.

"We've said all along that the savings of the importers on tariff reduction will not benefit the consumers. That's why the tariff reduction is not the answer (to the high retail price of rice)," Cainglet stressed.

He said the landed cost of imported rice is only between P35 and P38 kilo, and the maximum SRP on imported rice should be pegged at P45.

Tiu Laurel said the maximum SRP will be implemented initially in Metro Manila, and will be reviewed every month to take into account several factors, including global prices of the grain.

"We think that if the current direction of global prices holds, the maximum will be lower after the review," the DA chief said.

"Based on our calculations, using data and profit margins provided by importers and retailers, imported five percent broken rice should not exceed P58 per kilo. For rice with a higher percentage of broken grains, the price should be much lower," he explained.

Cainglet said the government should use the new Anti-Agriculture Economic Sabotage Act or Republic Act 12022 in going after unscrupulous traders.

"We've long suggested SRP, but with punitive action, using the new law as a basis for being non-bailable to anyone who is involved in profiteering of rice and other agriculture commodities," he said.

President Marcos signed EO 62 in an effort to bring down the retail price of rice.

Based on monitoring of the DA in Metro Manila markets, the retail price of imported special rice was sold as high as P64 per kilo; imported premium rice, as high as P60 per kilo; imported well-milled rice, P54 per kilo and imported regular-milled rice, P48 per kilo.

Trade and Industry Secretary Cristina Roque gave assurance of the department's support for the DA's campaign to lower rice prices for Filipino consumers.

"The DTI fully supports the DA in all its initiatives. We will help in the monitoring and enforcement of prices set by the DA," Roque said.

At the same time, Tiu Laurel has instructed Food Terminals Inc. (FTI), a government corporation under the DA, to begin selling rice through Kadiwa ng Pangulo centers and kiosks.

He said rice options include five percent broken at P45 per kilo, 25 percent broken at P40 and 100 percent broken – also known as Sulit Rice – at P36 per kilo and P29 per kilo for the vulnerable sector which include indigents, persons with disabilities, senior citizens, single parents and indigenous people.

Tiu Laurel said rice that has been stored by the National Food Authority (NFA) for at least two months will be made available for resale to local government units in Metro Manila at P38 per kilo.

"This initiative will help the NFA clear its warehouses in preparation for the upcoming harvest season. Our warehouses are filled to capacity, and I have directed NFA administrator Larry Lacson to have the rice milled immediately so we could saturate the market with fairer-price rice as we make space for the palay we plan to procure at a minimum of P23 per kilo for clean and dry this season," he added.

### **Lower priced tomatoes**

In a related development, SINAG said the retail price of tomatoes should not exceed P200 per kilo as its farmgate price went down by 40 percent or between P90 and P120 per kilo from the previous P180 to P200 per kilo.

In a message to The STAR, Cainglet said the farmgate price of tomatoes in Palawan is only P40 per kilo.

"The farmgate price of tomatoes dropped as many farmers harvested early," he said.

Based on monitoring of the DA in Metro Manila markets, the retail price of tomatoes still reached as high as P310 per kilo.

The retail price of tomatoes soared to P360 per kilo after the New Year celebration.

"In Mindanao, the retail price of tomatoes is below P100 (per kilo). The problem is logistics," Cainglet noted.

Agriculture Assistant Secretary and spokesman Arnel de Mesa has said that the DA has no plan to impose an SRP on tomatoes despite the spike in the cost of the farm product.

**Red onions**

SINAG yesterday assured the public of an ample supply of red onions as the harvest season has started.

Cainglet said the farmgate price remained stable between P50 and P60 per kilo for red onions, and between P70 and P80 per kilo for white onions over past weeks.

He said that from November to December, many farmers suffered losses amid rotting of red bulbs in cold storage. “The onion growers did not receive any intervention from the government,” he noted.

Cainglet added that the harvest season has started. “The onion farmers began their harvest that would pull down farmgate prices,” he said.

Based on monitoring of the DA in Metro Manila markets, the retail price of red onions ranged between P100 and P180 per kilo; local white onions, between P110 and P160 per kilo and imported white onions, between P85 and P200 per kilo.

Meanwhile, various peasant groups held a protest at Litex Market in Quezon City yesterday, as they condemned the soaring retail price of rice and vegetables in the country.

Members of the Amihan National Federation of Peasant Women, Gabriela Women’s Party party-list, watchdog group Bantay Bigas and Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas said the government should act amid the increase in poverty incidence across the country.

<https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2025/01/11/2413338/max-srp-imported-rice-starts-jan-20-da>

**PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER:**

# DA: More, cheaper rice options available at Kadiwa ng Pangulo

By: [Stephanie Sevillano](#) -

[Philippine News Agency](#) / 07:23 PM January 10, 2025



File photo shows a Kadiwa Center in Quezon City (LYN RILLON / INQUIRER)

MANILA – Consumers can enjoy more and cheaper rice options at the [Kadiwa ng Pangulo \(KNP\) centers](#) and kiosks, the Department of Agriculture (DA) said Friday.

In an ambush interview, Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr. said these options would be accessible to more Filipinos with the expansion of the KNP in other areas, in collaboration with national government agencies and local government units.

“*Apat iyon* (That would be four options). So, just to inform everybody *ang target namin* (our target) by the end of February – 180 *palengkes* (markets) in Metro Manila,” he said.

The four options are the Rice for All 5 (RFA 5), which is 5 percent broken and sells for PHP45 per kg.; RFA 25, which is 25 percent broken rice sold at PHP40 per kg; RFA 100, also known as Sulit rice, is 100 percent broken at PHP36 per kg; and P29 or the aging but good quality rice stock of the National Food Authority (NFA) sold to vulnerable sectors at PHP29 per kg.

Supplies under the Rice for All will come from Food Terminals, Inc. (FTI).

Tiu Laurel said he is set to meet with Metro Manila mayors to ensure the timely expansion of KNP sites, which the DA hopes would help drive down the market retail prices of rice.

### **Sulit rice**

Tiu Laurel and Trade Secretary Cristina Roque, meanwhile, showed the quality of Sulit rice during a public taste test.

He said the variety, although incomparable with 5 percent broken rice, is considered acceptable.

“Today is not yet the official launching of Sulit rice but *gusto nating makita* (we want to see), basically, it’s a market visit, to see *iyong* (the) acceptability of Sulit rice,” Tiu Laurel said.

“*Iyong mga 100 percent broken is a by-product iyan na ibinibenta talaga ng rice miller nang mura* (This 100 percent broken is a by-product being sold by rice millers at a cheaper price). That is why it is not a subsidy.”

He, however, noted the need to know the “perfect” strategy for milling to match the quality of imported ones for Sulit rice.

“*Nakita namin iyong quality ng Sulit rice na imported, maganda* (We saw the quality of imported Sulit rice, it’s good). *I’m now figuring out kung paano natin gagawin iyon dito sa Pilipinas, sa* (how to replicate that in our) rice processing systems. I believe we have the technology to do it,” Tiu Laurel said.

To date, the sale of Sulit rice is still undergoing trial in three select sites – Murphy market, FTI, and one LRT station in Metro Manila.

<https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/2023516/da-more-cheaper-rice-options-available-at-kadiwa-ng-pangulo>

**PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER:**

# DA sets imported rice price cap at P58/kg

By: [Lisbet K. Esmael](#) - [@inquirerdotnet](#)

[Philippine Daily Inquirer](#) / 05:46 AM January 11, 2025



Workers load sacks of imported rice from Thailand and Vietnam on a truck in Dagupan, Manila for transport to various dealers and distributors. INQUIRER FILE PHOTO / RICHARD A. REYES

MANILA, Philippines — The government will impose a maximum suggested retail price (MSRP) for imported rice at P58 per kilo, with the country’s agriculture chief saying this would initially cover Metro Manila beginning Jan. 20.

Department of Agriculture (DA) Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr. said the decision came following a series of “extensive consultations” with industry players, such as importers and retailers, and government agencies, as they tried to tame increasing rice prices despite President Ferdinand Marcos Jr.’s tariff cuts and drop in global prices.

He said the MSRP would be up for review every month to consider fresh factors affecting grain prices.

Reducing the set MSRP remains on the table, Tiu Laurel noted.

“We must ensure the price of rice is fair and affordable even as we make sure that the rice industry remains profitable. We cannot allow the greed of a few to jeopardize the well-being of an entire nation,” he said in a statement on Friday.

“Based on our calculations, using data and profit margins provided by importers and retailers, imported 5 percent broken rice should not exceed P58 per kilo. For rice with a higher percentage of broken grains, the price should be much lower,” he added.

Trade chief Cristina Roque also vowed that her department would “help in the monitoring and enforcement of prices set by the DA.”

<https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/2023566/da-sets-imported-rice-price-cap-at-p58-kg>



**BUSINESS WORLD:**

# Philippines reports outbreak of H5N2 bird flu among backyard ducks

January 10, 2025 | 9:28 am



**REUTERS**

PARIS – The Philippines reported an outbreak of highly pathogenic H5N2 bird flu among backyard ducks, the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) said on Thursday.

The virus was detected in 15 out of 428 backyard ducks in the Camarines Norte province, the Paris-based WOAH said in a report citing Philippine authorities.

The outbreak occurred in November and was confirmed in December, it said.

Highly pathogenic avian influenza, commonly called bird flu, has spread around the globe in the past years, leading to the culling of hundreds of millions of poultry.

The H5N2 strain is different from the one that has led to the death of a man in the United States. — **Reuters**

<https://www.bworldonline.com/economy/2025/01/10/645861/philippines-reports-outbreak-of-h5n2-bird-flu-among-backyard-ducks/>

**REMATE:**

# 2025 rice buffer stock target sisiguruhin ng NFA

January 10, 2025 11:47



KUMPIYANSA ang National Food Authority (NFA) na bibili ng mas maraming palay (unhusked rice) mula sa mga lokal na magsasaka sa 2025 habang tinataas ng gobyerno ang buffer stock target nito mula siyam na araw hanggang 15 araw.

Ayon sa NFA ang buffer stock ay tumutukoy sa pinakamainam na antas ng imbentaryo ng bigas na dapat panatilihin sa anumang oras upang magamit para sa mga emerhensiya at upang mapanatili ang mga programa ng pamahalaan sa pagtulong sa kalamidad sa panahon ng kalamidad.

Kaugnay nito sa isang pahayag nitong Martes, nagpahayag ng kumpiyansa si NFA Administrator Larry Lacson na makakamit nila ang kanilang mga layunin sa pagbili sa buong bansa sa kabila ng mga inaasahang hamon.

“Naniniwala ako na sa tulong ng lahat, kayang-kaya natin ito. Kahit maraming challenges, panatag ang NFA this year and moving forward,” ayon sa opisyal.

Kabilang sa mga hamon na binanggit niya ay ang pagpapalabas ng mga binili na stock ng NFA rice, ang kapasidad ng bodega para sa tumaas na buffer stock, at ang inaprubahang badyet sa ilalim ng 2025 General Appropriations Act (GAA).

Para sa 2024, sinabi ni Lacson na nakuha ng NFA ang 95 porsiyento ng 300,000 metric tons (MT) target procurement nito.

“Pagkatapos lamang na mailabas ng NFA ang mga stock ng bigas mula sa mga bodega nito, makakabili ang ahensya mula sa mga lokal na magsasaka,” aniya.

Samantala sinabi ni Lacson na ipinag-utos niya ang pag-aayos ng mga bodega para i-accommodate ang mga papasok na stock ng bigas.

Limitado ang mga release natin sa DSWD (Department of Social Welfare and Development), at ngayong tinaasan na ang buffer stock sa labinlimang araw, mas malaki ang hamon sa warehousing,” ani Lacson.

Sa usapin ng badyet, nagpahayag si Lacson ng kumpiyansa sa suportang nagmumula sa Office of the President (OP).

Para sa 2025, ang NFA ay pinagkalooban ng alokasyon na PHP9 bilyon, kapareho ng badyet noong nakaraang taon. (*Santi Celario*)

<https://remate.ph/2025-rice-buffer-stock-target-sisiguruhin-ng-nfa/>

**REMATE:**

## Ubay, Bohol dinelubyo ng ASF

January 10, 2025 08:52



MANILA, Philippines – Isinailalim na sa state of calamity ang Bayan ng Ubay, Bohol kasunod ng pagsiklab ng African Swine Fever (ASF) sa tatlong barangay.

Ang deklarasyon ay ginawa sa pamamagitan ng isang resolusyon na ipinasa ng Konseho ng Munisipyo noong Enero 8, 2025.

Ang mga apektadong barangay—Los Angeles, San Francisco, at Bulilis—ay nag-ulat ng 127 na pagkamatay ng baboy, na nakaapekto sa 650 kabahayan na nagsasagawa ng backyard hog raising.

Ang Ubay Municipal Agriculturist na si Marianito Doydora ay nagpahayag ng pagkabahala sa pagkalat ng ASF, na binanggit na 10 barangay, kabilang ang mga katabing lugar, ay humiling ng suportang pinansyal para sa mga checkpoint at logistik upang masugpo ang contagion.

Upang mabawasan ang outbreak, naglabas si Bohol Governor Erico Aristotle Aumentado ng Executive Order No. 57, na nagpapataw ng anim na buwang moratorium sa mga aktibidad sa pag-upa ng baboy-ramo.

Bukod pa rito, ang mga checkpoint sa hangganan sa buong lalawigan ay hinigpitan upang maiwasan ang higit pang pagkalat, kasama ang mga kalapit na munisipalidad tulad ng Carmen, na matatagpuan mahigit 40 kilometro ang layo, na nag-uulat din ng mga kaso ng ASF.

Ang pagpapalaki ng baboy ay isang kritikal na industriya para sa Bohol, na nagkakahalaga ng ₱6 bilyon, na ginagawang malaking banta sa lokal na ekonomiya ang pagsiklab ng ASF. *RNT*

<https://remate.ph/ubay-bohol-dinelubyo-ng-asf/>

**REMATE:**

## **₱58/kg price cap sa imported rice ipatutupad sa Enero 20**

January 10, 2025 15:25



MANILA – Inihayag ni Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel na ang maximum suggested retail price (MSRP) para sa imported na bigas ay magiging ₱58 kada kilo simula Enero 20, sa Metro Manila.

“Ang MSRP na ito ay nagsisiguro ng patas at abot-kayang presyo ng bigas habang pinapanatili ang kakayahang kumita ng industriya. Hindi natin maaaring hayaang ilagay sa panganib ang kasakiman sa kapakanan ng bansa,” ani Tiu Laurel.

Ang price cap, na tinutukoy sa pamamagitan ng mga konsultasyon sa mga stakeholder at ahensya ng gobyerno, ay susuriin buwan-buwan batay sa pandaigdigang presyo ng bigas.

Nagtala ang DA ng 2024 rice import volume na 4.7 million metric tons, na pinipigilan ang smuggling dahil sa mas mababang taripa at pagbaba ng presyo.

Bukod pa rito, ang Food Terminals Inc. ay magbebenta ng bigas sa mga sentro ng KADIWA, kabilang ang mga varieties na may presyong ₱36, ₱40, at ₱45 kada

kilo. Ang National Food Authority ay muling magbebenta ng bigas sa halagang ₱38 kada kilo sa mga LGU para maalisan ang mga stock bago ang panahon ng ani. *Santi Celario*

<https://remate.ph/%e2%82%b158-kg-price-cap-sa-imported-rice-ipatutupad-sa-enero-20/>

**ABANTE:**

# 35% taripa sa imported rice bet ibalik ng DA

Abante News

• January 11, 2025



Maaaring ibalik na ng gobyerno ang 35% taripa sa mga imported na bigas, ayon sa Department of Agriculture (DA) nitong Sabado.

Sinabi ni DA spokesperson Assistant Secretary Arnel de Mesa, oras na kumalma na ang presyuhan ng bigas sa international market ay baka irekomenda na nila ang pagbalik sa dating rate ng taripa.

Ang taripa sa imported na bigas ay binaba sa 15% mula sa 35% nang ilabas ng Malacañang ang Executive Order 62 noong Hulyo 2024.

“May tinitingnan na ngayon o usapin itong issue na ito, may possibility iyan ‘pag patuloy ‘yung pagbaba ng presyo sa international market at naayos na ‘yung ilang mga pamantayan, may posibilidad na magrekomenda ang DA na ibalik na ‘yung taripa to a certain level,” wika ni De Mesa sa radio interview.

Sinabi pa ng opisyal na lumabas din sa imbestigasyon na ang mga retailer ay nagpapatong ng malaki sa presyo ng bigas kahit binawasan na ng gobyerno ang taripa sa imported rice.

<https://www.abante.com.ph/2025/01/11/35-taripa-sa-imported-rice-bet-ibalik-ng-da/>

**ABANTE:**

# Imported rice ipapako sa P58 per kilo SRP

Abante News

• January 10, 2025



Magpapatupad ang Department of Agriculture (DA) ng P58 pesos kada kilong maximum suggested retail price (SRP) para sa mga imported na bigas simula sa Enero 20, 2025 sa Metro Manila.

Inanunsiyo ito mismo ni Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr. nitong Biyernes ng umaga, Enero 10, matapos ang joint inspection ng

Isa ito sa mga naisip na solusyon ni Laurel para labanan ang lumolobong presyo ng bigas sa kabila ng pagsisikap ng DA na pababain ito.

Natukoy umano ang P58 maximum SRP sa imported rice matapos ang konsultasyon ng DA sa iba't ibang stakeholders sa industriya tulad ng mga rice miller, trader, importer, retailer, at mga kaugnay na ahensiya ng gobyerno.

Sa paliwanag ni Laurel, ginamit na basehan sa P58 maximum SRP ang pinakamahal na nakita nitong presyo ng Magandang bigas na 5% broken rice galing Vietnam at isinama na rin sa kuwenta ang taripa at tubo ng traders at retailers.

Nasa P10 ang ibinibigay na margin o tubo ng importer sa retailer sa maximum MSRP na P58 per kilo.

Sabi ni Laurel, sa imported rice lamang ipatutupad ang maximum MSRP.

Sa ngayon, bumababa naman na aniya ang presyo ng bigas sa pandaigdigang merkado.

Kakausapin na ng DA at DTI ang mga grocery at convenience stores tungkol sa SRP ng imported rice.

“Sa ngayon, puro usapan muna, usapang matino,” sabi ni Laurel.

Dagdag niya, sumusunod naman ang mga grocery sa usapan nito sa presyo sa DTI kaya panatag siyang susundin ang maximum SRP na P58 per kilo ng imported rice.

Hindi nilinaw ni Laurel kung may parusa laban sa hindi pagsunod sa SRP.

Sabi ni Laurel, rekomendasyon lamang ng price ceiling ang kanilang magagawa at ang Pangulong lang ang makapag-uutos nito.

Noong Setyembre 2023, nag-utos na si Pangulong Ferdinand “Bongbong” Marcos Jr. ng price ceiling sa bigas nang umupo si Laurel bilang DA chief. Hindi ito ipinatupad at walang nakasuhan sa hindi pagsunod. (Migo Fajatin/Eileen Mencias)

<https://www.abante.com.ph/2025/01/10/imported-rice-ipapako-sa-p58-per-kilo-srp/>



## BUSINESS MIRROR:

# Maximum SRP for imported rice starts January 20

Ada Pelonia  
January 11, 2025



**ASSORTED rice varieties for sale at a grocery in Antipolo, ahead of the Department of Agriculture's implementation of a maximum suggested retail price of P58 per kilo, effective January 20.**

THE Department of Agriculture (DA) will impose a maximum suggested retail price of P58 per kilo for imported rice starting January 20.

Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr. said the MSRP aims to have a balance between business sustainability and the welfare of consumers and farmers.

“We must ensure the price of rice is fair and affordable even as we make sure that the rice industry remains profitable. We cannot allow the greed of a few to jeopardize the well-being of an entire nation,” Laurel said in a statement.

He noted that the MSRP will be initially implemented in Metro Manila. It will be reviewed every month to take into account several factors, including the global price of the grain.

“We think that if the current direction of global prices hold, the MSRP will be lower after the review,” Laurel said.

For her part, Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Secretary Cristina Roque reaffirmed the agency's support for the DA's push to lower rice prices.

"The DTI fully supports the DA in all its initiatives. We will help in the monitoring and enforcement of prices set by the DA," Roque said.

The agency noted that it has held discussions with stakeholders and key government offices to address persistently high rice prices.

"Based on our calculations, using data and profit margins provided by importers and retailers, imported 5 percent broken rice should not exceed P58 per kilo. For rice with a higher percentage of broken grains, the price should be much lower," Laurel explained.

Meanwhile, the agency said Laurel ordered Food Terminals Inc. (FTI), a government corporation under the DA, to begin selling rice through Kadiwa ng Pangulo centers and kiosks.

Among the rice options are 5 percent broken sold at P45 per kilo, 25 percent broken at P40 per kilo, and 100 percent broken, also known as Sulit Rice, at P36 per kilo.

Furthermore, the agriculture chief said rice that has been stored by the National Food Authority for at least two months will be available for resale to local government units in Metro Manila at P38 per kilo.

"This initiative will help the NFA clear its warehouses in preparation for the upcoming harvest season," Laurel said.

"Our warehouses are filled to capacity, and I have directed NFA administrator Larry Lacson to have the rice milled immediately so we can saturate the market with fairer-priced rice as we make space for the palay we plan to procure at a minimum of P23 per kilo for clean and dry this season," he added.

Image credits: [ED DAVAD](#)

[https://businessmirror.com.ph/2025/01/11/maximum-srp-for-imported-rice-starts-jan-20/?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAAR0RxqGaCzi5VoWj7p7cwLW6fhJcRXzAIN5PZVwZ5Oy2-BsnhPinGeHT3Gw\\_aem\\_bnNvxTjX7ejAqFLkQ9FLzw](https://businessmirror.com.ph/2025/01/11/maximum-srp-for-imported-rice-starts-jan-20/?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAAR0RxqGaCzi5VoWj7p7cwLW6fhJcRXzAIN5PZVwZ5Oy2-BsnhPinGeHT3Gw_aem_bnNvxTjX7ejAqFLkQ9FLzw)

## **BUSINESS MIRROR:**

# **Kanlaon eruption results in P129-M agri damage**

Ada Pelonia

January 10, 2025

THE eruption of Mt. Kanlaon has damaged crops and livestock worth P129.39 million, according to the Department of Agriculture (DA).

The agency said in its latest bulletin that the eruption displaced 1,431 farmers, with 581 hectares of farmland. Of this, 307 hectares showed no chance of recovery.

It added that the volume of production loss was pegged at 5,420 metric tons (MT).

Broken down, high-value crops sustained the bulk of the damage at 5,311 MT. This was followed by rice at 91 MT, and corn at 18 MT. Livestock and poultry lost 321 chickens, carabaos, cattle, and goats.

The agency said these were equivalent to P124.93 million for high-value crops; P3.06 million for rice, P503,350 for corn, and P900,100 for livestock and poultry.

It stated that the damage in high-value crops includes upland and lowland vegetables, spices, legumes, fruit trees, root crops, coffee, and cacao.

For rice, most of the losses were in vegetative and reproductive stages while corn had damage in reproductive and maturity stages.

“Additional damage and losses are expected as assessment is ongoing in areas affected by the Kanlaon Volcanic Activity,” the DA said.

Amid the damage sustained by the sector, the DA said it provided affected farmers with several interventions. This includes farm inputs such as rice and corn seeds; as well as drugs and biologics for livestock animals.

The agency also encouraged farmers to tap the P500 million Survival and Recovery (SURE) Loan Program from the Agricultural Credit Policy Council, which will allow them to take out a loan of up to P25,000 which is payable in three years at zero interest.

It added that available funds from the Philippine Crop Insurance Corp. (PCIC) will be disbursed to indemnify affected farmers.

Mt. Kanlaon erupted anew last December 9. The volcano remains under alert level 3, indicating a greater risk of hazardous volcanic activity.

Local governments were advised to evacuate the six-kilometer radius from the summit of the volcano and be prepared for additional evacuation if activity from the volcano warrants it.

[https://businessmirror.com.ph/2025/01/10/kanlaon-eruption-results-in-%e2%82%a7129-m-agri-damage/?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTAAAR2aNc7WX9tSmvJ6qzRKtoMRCTCpSOfh-whZLQqB9H9H4hniC-S8t9XB4U\\_aem\\_yB5pBsXk3AscCI44S6qc7w](https://businessmirror.com.ph/2025/01/10/kanlaon-eruption-results-in-%e2%82%a7129-m-agri-damage/?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTAAAR2aNc7WX9tSmvJ6qzRKtoMRCTCpSOfh-whZLQqB9H9H4hniC-S8t9XB4U_aem_yB5pBsXk3AscCI44S6qc7w)